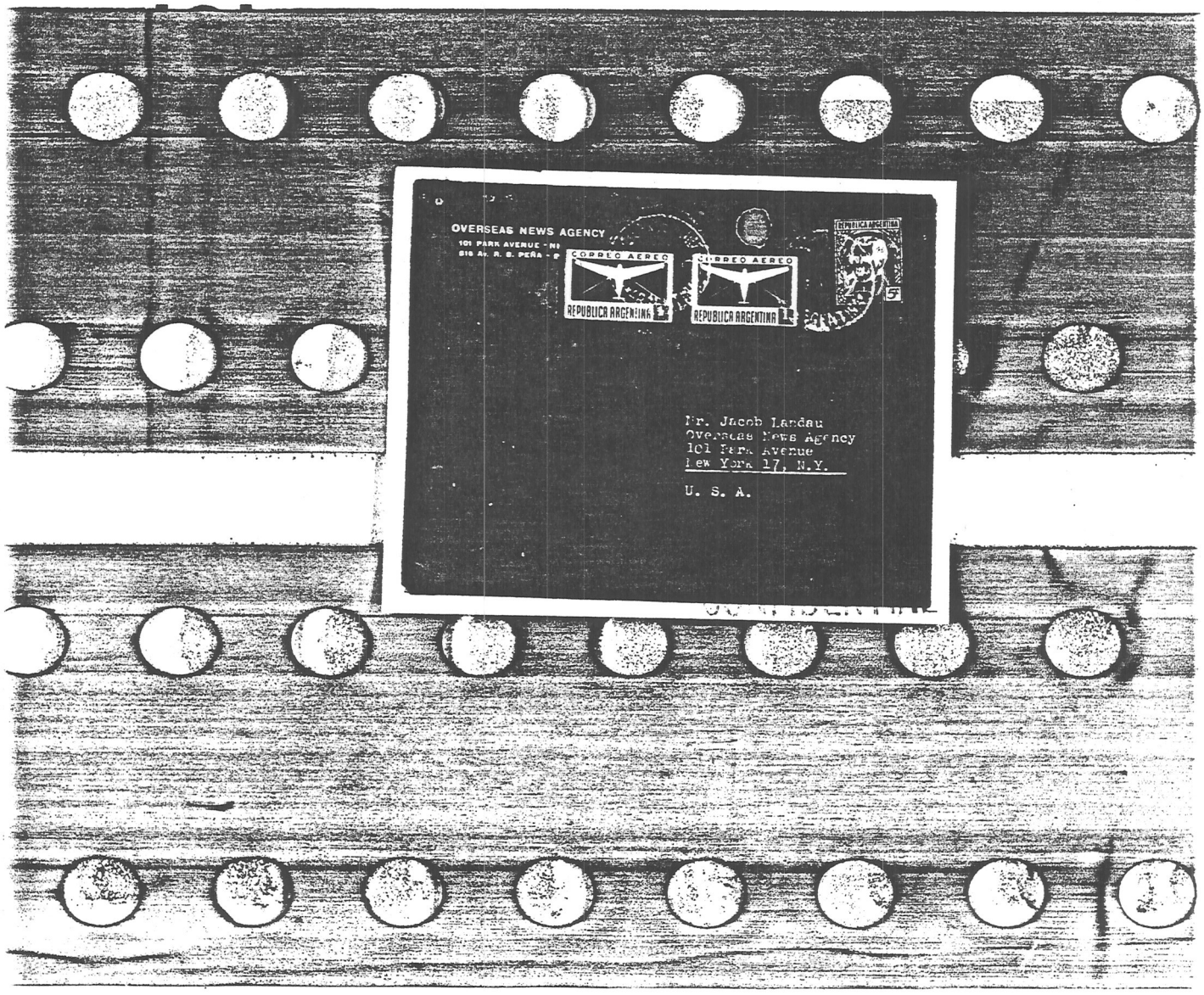
OVERSEAS NEWS AGENCY
101 PARK AVENUE - NE
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CORREO AEREO
REPUBLICA ARGENTINA
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Mr. Jacob Landau
Overseas News Agency
101 Park Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.
U. S. A.

Buenos Aires, April 26, 1945

Mr. Jacob Landau
101 Park Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Landau:

First I have to present you my excuses for my last letter. It had been dictated to somebody in the office whose English is not very good, and it has been my fault that it has been dispatched without correcting.

J T A: As I wrote you in a previous letter, I have asked Dr. Lissin, who says you know him, to take care of the JTA-office. I am sure we could have found a better man, but considering the relatively small amount we can offer and the fact that he practically has to build up his own position, he is probably the best man who could have been taken under these conditions. He has a good reputation, good contacts, knows Jewish life in Argentina, is not too close to any of the antagonistic groups, has good recommendations from Schuster, Teubal and Mirelman. He has a lot of energies, although it seems to me that he is losing too much of his time with details. He is certainly pleasant to work with, and I hope he will have success, as your correspondent and as the local manager of the JTA. In case you want to start a financial campaign in Argentina, I would advice you by all means to send a man from somewhere else. The proverb: A prophet is nothing in his own country, is more valid in Argentina than anywhere else. What we are doing is certainly an excellent preparation for a future drive - informing people about the existence and the activities of JTA. I shall have Lissin write to you directly.

Please send 200 Dollars for March and 200 for April for JTA-expenses as soon as possible. Although JTA started only in the second week of March, we spent more than 150 Dollars that month because we had to buy furniture and had to deposit three months' rent in advance as a guarantee, when we rented the office. The remaining 200 Pesos I handed over to Dr. Lissin. I have also advanced JTA-expenses during April and I shall hand over to Dr. Lissin what remains of the 800 Pesos. As his salary only starts with May and I have not taken any salary from JTA, he will have enough money to handle the expenses from now on until he gets the next 200 dollars directly from you, but I would appreciate if you would send me as soon as possible the 400 Dollars I advanced from my own pocket.

We have been issuing the Spanish and German bulletin for a very limited number of people, whom we have informed that this is only a try-out and that after a short period we shall have a regular service with JTA-cables in it. Meanwhile we have not asked for any payment for subscription. When I started the bulletin, of course, I had no idea that it would take much more than a month until we would be able to get the cable-service.

A P A: As Mrs. Viterbo and I wrote you, I have prepared the APA-finances in a way that APA practically can be considered self-supporting and can do without the 500 Dollars you send us. Theoretically Glas, with the income he will have at hand from the daily bulletin, from the feature-service and individual supporters, will not only be able to sustain the office as it is today but will also be able to enlarge the service what national news are concerned. The coming month he will have a free hand to execute his plans. Should he not reach his aims, we will have to introduce a few measures of economization. But I hope that will not be necessary. By all means I am decided not to allow APA to have a further deficit. I have prepared everything, so that the APA-work will go on for the coming month of May while I am away in Chile. During the month of June, I shall spend all

without any difficulties

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

my time in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, try to make new improvements, get new customers, etc. As it looks right now in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, we have practically all the clients we could get, but in June the situation might have changed again to our favour, there might be more news-print available, through the papers which publish our service now, ONA will be more well known and the fact that we get a regular number of features by radio, will help us to get new clients, as soon as I start a new campaign in June.

A P L A: As we told you I have arranged that most of the money you send us will be available for expansion. The coming month it will be at least 300 Dollars out of the 500. But within three months I hope that the whole of the 500 Dollars will be at my disposal. To develop APA, APU and ANP and to make them more or less selfsupporting, as they are now, we have spent about 25.000 Pesos.-3.500 Dollars came from you. The rest I have invested since I began to work with Glas one year ago. Of course, we have paid some "Lehrgeld" and the experiences will help us in our work in other countries. On the other hand, APA had already some financial basis when I, and later you walked in. But I think it won't be a big mistake when I suppose that a similar amount - about 6.000 dollars - will be necessary to organize and support the organizations in the rest of Southamerica until all of them become selfsupporting. So what I should like to hear from you, that ~~you will~~ - if not something extraordinary changes the situation - that 500 dollars will be available for APLA for 12 more months. In return for this, you will expect that at the end of these twelve months not only the whole organization will be selfsupporting, but that countries like Argentina and Uruguay, where we started first, will already bring some benefits.

What me personally concernes, as Mrs. Viterbo and I wrote you, I would like to be sure that during this period I can count with a regular salary of 250 Dollars monthly, paid besides of the 500 dollars. I have been investing money of my own. I have been working without any payment. I think I can say that my work has been effective and successful. Now, when I shall be travelling, I shall be losing the last little and occasional income I had here in Buenos Aires from other sources, and as my wife will mostly not be able to accompany me when I am travelling, I shall have to continue with my houshold in Buenos Aires. My plan for the coming twelve months is to go to the different Southamerican countries, stay in one country as long as it is necessary to be sure that everything will march also without my presence; then go back to Buenos Aires, stay there for a couple of weeks and leave again to a new country. For example: 4 weeks Chile, 4 weeks Buenos Aires; after this 6 to 8 weeks to organize Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador; go back to Buenos Aires; stay there 4 weeks; after this, if the situation in Brazil has changed so that there is a chance to establish a local news service in Rio and Sao Paolo, go to Brazil. If not, make Colombia and Venezuela, come back, etc.

We need more clippings for our feature service. What we need especially are articles written by famous people, even if what they say is not very important. What happened to "Free World"? Haven't you the rights for reproduction? Why don't you send them to us by airmail? Could you get other publications for us to reproduce? What about the Foreign Policy Reports? Sometimes, although very seldom, they publish good articles. Could you get us articles from "The Call" and similar publications? Sometimes they have interesting stuff. Also publications like "The American Magazine", "Pick", from back-copies of "Click" or any other kind of magazin carrying the kind of articles we reproduce. We need a good number of clippings with financial and economic news-items, but have no use at all for book-reviews or American theatre news and very little news about movies. We have also opened up the catholic press for ONA. We have now "El Pueblo" of Buenos Aires, "Los Principios" of Cordoba, "La Verdad" of Junin. There are many

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

[illegible] Buenos Aires, April 22, 1945

[illegible] parts of Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, etc. [illegible] field for us, but, of course, we need a special type of [illegible] for them. I don't have to tell you what organized Catholicism in [illegible] Argentina, means. They continue to be arch-[illegible] although today they try to appease their bad conscience by [illegible] more democratic.

Won't Bene B'rith or other Jewish organizations publish some material [illegible] for the catholics? Please send us as little as possible U.S. home news. It is not yet the time to make them interesting; and no clippings which are definitely old after ten to fifteen days of travelling. Please try to double or if possible treble the material Stanley Ross used to send. It will bring us new costumers and new income.

I hope that in the next few days the Teleco reception will finally work. I would like to make the experiment for two months and try to sell the features you are going to send us by wireless. We had to find out that it is impossible at the moment to sell the cable service at a decent price to a paper in Buenos Aires, which would cover the expenses you had for it by sending it by wireless. The papers in Buenos Aires have UP, AP, but no space for any other cable news.
The papers in the interior get the service late anyhow. It is the same to them, if they get in the airmailed bulletin. May be I shall find a client who can pay for 3, 5 or 7 features radioed to Buenos Aires. To be frank, I am not too optimistic. If it is possible, I shall advise you by the end of June to stop CNA-cabling for a couple of months, save the money and re-iniciate the cabling only after the situation has changed, the papers have more news-print, more space and more money.

Sometimes I have the impression that you are too careless in your financial relations with me. Remittances of money are always late. The first of every month I have to pay more than 2.000 pesos for salaries. The money from New York comes only between the 10th and 15th. As I told you I had to advance money for JTA for 2 months. I think it is natural, that if you start something new, you ought to send money for it. The same about the 5.000 Pesos from Mr. Teubal. I have received them, but I wrote to you that I was sending them to Montevideo to get finally the capital on the account of APLA to satisfy the legal requirements. The money is there and can not yet be disposed of and probably will have to remain there for one or two weeks. So again I shall have to use my money to advance salaries etc. Besides I have written to you that you cannot book all the money in your favour. Elia Teubal had been contributing 200 Pesos a month and Nissim Teubal has promised us a contribution which, I am sure, would have been around 200 Pesos a month. With the 5.000 Pesos they paid me, they consider that enough money from their side has been given to us for quite a while - I had to protest twice before they paid the 5.000 because they wanted to deduce 1.200 Pesos, which Elia Teubal had given us last year -. So it will be just if, of the 5.000 Pesos you deduct 600 Dollars as having been raised locally. Of the remaining 650 Dollars I shall take 500 Dollars for this month and 150 Dollars for next month, so that next month I expect to receive from you only 350 Dollars. Please send them and try to send in time. The 500 Dollars shall go for APLA expansion, but of course for quite a while I shall have to place them at the disposal of APA, as soon as they arrive, in order to pay salaries etc., being repaid from the income from newspapers and individual subscribers who always keep us waiting.

I hope I shall be able to send you good news from Chile soon. Many thanks for your letters of introduction which, I am sure, will be very useful.

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

Mr. Jacob Landau — Buenos Aires, April 26, 1945

When I look through our correspondence of the last months, I have the impression of a rather harsh and not always too friendly conversation, and I am feeling very sorry for it. When I met you here, and especially after knowing you a little better, I took a good liking to you, with much personal sympathy. This is impossible to express in business-letters, so I think I have to assure you from time to time that I still like you very much and I really and sincerely hope for the moment to shall meet again. I hope you feel the same way towards me, in spite of my explosions, reclamations, claims, protests about money, etc.

Sincerely Yours

Kurt Steinfeld

KS/hm

P.S. I asked you already once before whether you have got JTA correspondents all over Southamerica. If not I would like to be authorized to appoint such in countries where JTA is not yet represented, always under the condition that only their printed collaborations are to be paid and that they are accepted by you.

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

Buenos Aires, April 26, 1945

Mrs. Ida Landau
Overseas News Agency
101 Park Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Landau:

Many thanks for your letter of April 10th. I am very satisfied of what you write about the relations of the JTA with the Joint and other organizations, because it is exactly my opinion and rectifies my position. I continue to have the best relations with Mr. Lichtman, as well as with the other side. As you will see from my correspondence with Mr. Landau, I am working with a Mr. Lissin instead of Neviaski and I have arranged with David, that he works exclusively for us. I had a feeling about him that he wanted to do a little doublecrossing, but still, he is a poor devil and will continue to be useful to us.

I think your analogy between the foreign language papers in the States and the Latinamerican papers does not hold in a double sense: first, postwar possibilities of Latinamerican papers are much bigger; second, for different reasons it is still more difficult to educate Latinamerican papers for the service they get than for any American papers (for example: in Argentina papers get free and sometimes good services from the Americans, the British, French, Dutch, Norwegians, Swedes, the Argentine governments, from America through two different channels, from the British through four different channels.) Besides the propaganda for the Catholic church, Woodlover Press, Protestants, Rumanians, Accion Católica and a good number of others. The British, French and Americans often even pay in form of advertising. I don't think you have the same situation in U.S.A. But I perfectly agree with your other principles, including that financial difficulties have to be avoided by all means. But I want to draw your attention to the following: We do not, nor did we employ underpaid employees with the exception of Glas and myself. We never have unpaid bills. For principal reasons I pay all bills maximum after two weeks after they have been presented to me. If APA has been working all these months with a deficit, as it really has, it was because I was perfectly decided to come up for this deficit, not a fond perdu but as an investment for the future. I consider APA and APLA partly my own, and whatever other business I would have organized, I would have had to invest money.

I feel, like you, that the organization of offices in liberated Europe is of very great importance, especially because as soon as I have finished my work in Latinamerica, I want to go over there. So, if you think you could save from us for this purpose without endangering our plans for expansion, for example stop the radio transmissions immediately without which we could certainly do for several months, as I explained to Mr. Landau. It would be perfectly alright for us.

I am glad you like our work here and it is not modesty when I say that our success is only due to the high quality of the material you send us. Here is a little example: INS which previously served only papers in Buenos Aires, impressed by our success with the papers in the interior, offered their service to 40 papers in the interior, one month free, regular conditions to be discussed later. Of the 40 papers, 34 are our clients and none of them published one line from INS. Of the remaining

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

6, 5 are papers we never offered our service for their reactionary position, 2 of them now use INS, the 6th, which by some mistake has not been served by us, I offered immediately our service at a rather cheap price of contribution. He accepted our service, is now using INS and ONA but promised me to contract our service exclusively, immediately after the time of probation for INS has expired.

I hope to hear from you even when Mr. Landau is in New York and remain

Sincerely Yours

Kurt Steinfeld

Kurt Steinfeld

KS/hm

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

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Mexico, D.F.

Mr. Jacob Landau, Managing Director,
Overseas News Agency
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New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

CARROLL COLVIN
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Mr. Jacob Landau, Director,
Overseas News Agency
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Landau:

I've had some talks with members of the Free German group here- Paul Merker the Communist, trade unionist and former Reichstag member, Ludwig Renn, the writer, and others - on the basis of which I'm am going to write some short pieces for ONA.

If you don't know the organization, they are the men behind THE FREE BOOK PUBLISHING HOUSE, and of course issue the German monthly and the weekly paper here.

Ludwig Renn has asked my permission for them to reprint the Donald Bell feature article which was released on 4/20/45 - under the title of "Retribution." I told them I had blanket instructions to consult the N.Y. office for reprint rights on all ONA material. May they use it?

I took my copy down to show Renn and ask him if he agreed with Bell's point of view and what he thought of the article. He thinks it's an excellent job and agrees with Bell on everything except one point - that of paying rewards for the delivery of Nazis, which he believes will attract the worst kind of agents - the nucleus for a new Gestapo group. I am including this reaction of his as part of an interview I had with him on What Must Germany Do? .. (On this, I also plan to query a couple of well-known proNazis here)

I told Renn I thought I could let him know inside of 10 days re the reprint rights of the Bell piece for El Correo Democratico.

With my best wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

Carroll Colvin

Carroll Colvin

P.S I think it would be an excellent idea to offer the republication rights of an article Seligmann wrote called "Curbing Reich's War Potential .. (my copy bears no date, but

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

it's recently to one of several business magazines here, read by the industrialists. D[illegible]n? May I?.. I'd do it through Domingo Lazin, pres[illegible] the Chamber of Processed Industries, Eduardo Villagenor or some such person I know.

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BYRON PRICE, Director.

one casual
mention of "CHICK"
p 2 1st letter
Subject of FBI
file is "Press file kept
with more than 40 years